



U.S. Department of Justice

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EVENT: Guilty Verdict

Defendant: Nedjo Lojpour

**SHELBY TOWNSHIP MAN IMPLICATED IN BOSNIAN WAR CRIMES
PLEADS GUILTY TO IMMIGRATION FRAUD**

A 52-year-old Shelby Township man who failed to disclose his service in a Bosnian Serb military unit that committed war crimes in the mid-1990s pled guilty to two counts of immigration fraud in federal court today, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced. Joining in the announcement was Brian M. Moskowitz, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of Investigations in Detroit .

Nedjo Lojpour served in the Zvornik Infantry Brigade, 1st Infantry Company, 7th Infantry Battalion, in the former Yugoslavia, from approximately 1992 to 1995. The Zvornik Infantry Brigade is known to be responsible for various atrocities committed during the 1992-1995 conflict in Bosnia, including the murder of 3,000-4,000 Bosnian men in the UN-designated safe-area of Srebrenica in July 1995, the murder of another 500-1000 men and boys in other executions, and the forcible expulsion of 25,000-35,000 women, children, and elderly persons.

Lojpour immigrated to the United States in 2002 but failed to disclose his military service

on his refugee application. He again failed to disclose his military service in 2004, when he applied for permanent residency.

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy said, "Immigration fraud is particularly serious when it involves the concealment of a criminal or violent past. Failure to disclose service in a unit associated with the commission of atrocities in Bosnia is a dangerous omission, and today's guilty plea illustrates the importance of the mission of ICE in detecting and prosecuting such abuses."

Lojpour was arrested on December 11, 2006 as part of a coordinated nationwide arrest of Bosnian Serb war veterans implicated in war crimes that failed to disclose their military service on immigration documents. At least 16 individuals were arrested around the country that week and dozens more over the past two years.

As part of his plea agreement, in addition to a possible sentence of imprisonment, Lojpour has agreed to be deported to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Immigration fraud is punishable by a maximum sentence of 10 years' imprisonment and a fine of up to \$250,000. Sentencing is scheduled for July 17, 2007, at 3:00 p.m.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Leonid Feller.